

REGULATIONS



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During all the WEP competitions, each person involved is obliged to respect the principles of fair play and horse welfare.

At every stage of training, preparation and during the competitions the horse welfare is paramount and cannot be submitted to competition or commercial purposes.

I. THE PRIORITY OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

In all matters not covered by these Regulations, WAVE Regulations will be applied, and in cases where there are no regulations – PZJ/FEI Regulations.

II. AGE CATEGORIES FOR RIDERS

In given age categories, competitors may start according to age according to the table below (the given ranges define the right to start in individual classes).

CATEGORY	AGE*	START PERMITTED IN FOLLOWING CLASSES
CHILDREN	8-12	Mini L do P
JUNIOR	13-18	L do MASTER
SENIOR	>18	L do MASTER

** The age is determined in accordance with the year of birth.*

III. LEGAL ID DOCUMENTS OF HORSES AND COMPETITORS

1. Horses and competitors taking part in competitions must have the currently valid documents;
2. Horses documents:
 - 2.1. The horse's official passport, which contains all the correct entries vaccinations against equine influenza is required. Passports may be checked by official veterinary of the competitions or by each member of the Judges Committee;
 - 2.2. The age of the horse must be as indicated in the table: App. no 1 Regulation WEP 2024 – classes. The horse's age is determined according to its year of birth.
3. Athletes' documents
 - 3.1. All competitors have to take out appropriate accident personal insurance policies. This will be verified on the basis of the declaration sent together with the license application;
 - 3.2. Medical certificate confirming the lack of health contraindications to take part in competitions. Possession of the certificate is verified on the basis of the declaration included in the competitor's license application;
 - 3.3. Riders are strongly recommended to take out liability insurance policies.
4. All competitors and horses with a purchased license are eligible to take part in the competitions for a given year.

IV. PROPOSALS AND APPLICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

1. The competitions proposals will be available to the public, after approval by WEP Judges' committee, via official www website and official social media of Organizer and WEP, not less than 4 weeks before the scheduled date of the event, and in the case of international competitions according to WAVE rules. The proposals form is available on the WEP website (www.workingequitation.pl) in the tab: Organization of competitions (form can be freely modified graphically by the Organizer).

2. The proposals should contain following information:
 - 2.1. Organizer's details, including address and contact details (address, telephone, email);
 - 2.2. Address of the competitions venue with an overview map, if necessary;
 - 2.3. Data of official persons and others fulfilling technical functions, including, among others: President of Competitions, President/head of the Competitions Office, Stables Manager, the Judges Committee with the indication of the President of Jury, Veterinarian, etc.;
 - 2.4. Start and end date of the competitions, as well as a detailed competitions program;
 - 2.5. Deadline and method of participation applications;
 - 2.6. Conditions for participation in competitions for horses and competitors;
 - 2.7. Competitions fees;
 - 2.8. Specified financial and/or material prizes;
 - 2.9. Additional organizational information, e.g. about available infrastructure in the area;
 - 2.10. Code of conduct consistent with the welfare of the horse.
3. Course plans regarding the maneability and/or speed tests to be performed, are prepared by or approved by the President of Jury of the competitions and should be made available on the Organizer's and WEP's websites no later than 7 days before the start of the first day of the competitions. There is no possibility of change course plans after it is made available.
4. Applications of participation should be sent directly by the indicated in propositions way and within the deadline, but not later than 7 days before the start of competitions. In the application, or directly in the office before first start, competitor must inform which hand is "the working" hand.
5. The Organizer is entitled to:
 - 5.1. not accept to competitions the applications of competitors and horses that have not been registered in the required manner;
 - 5.2. request prepayment of up to 100% of the organizational fee and box fee in a specified in the proposals time. Persons who submit a withdrawal after the final application deadline or after the withdrawal deadline indicated in the proposals, and persons who do not come to the competitions, may have a maximum refund of 50% of the fees incurred, if any has been paid;
 - 5.3. limit the number of admitted competitors and horses for organizational reasons. This information must be provided in the proposals or in a separate communication, no later than 7 days before the start of the competitions;
 - 5.4. correct published competitions proposals - competitors will have the right to withdrawal and refund of 100% of organizational and box fees incurred, provided that corrections were introduced after the final entry deadline.

V. DUTIES OF THE COMPETITIONS ORGANIZER

1. Regardless of the type of competitions, the Organizer is obliged to:
 - 1.1. publish on the website and on the official competition platform proposals, starting lists and results;
 - 1.2. organize a competitions office with internet access, equipped with the necessary computer and office equipment;
 - 1.3. provide the public address system, the sound should be audible in the competitions arena and warming-up zone;
 - 1.4. ensure the interlinking public address system providing the contact between The President of the Jury, Paddock Officer, the competitions office and the medical services;
 - 1.5. ensure the competitions announcer (speaker);
 - 1.6. provide an appropriate number of trained secretaries, equal to the number of Judges;
 - 1.7. provide disposable light colored gloves (latex or rubber) in sufficient number to be able to check all starting horses;
 - 1.8. provide medical services during the competition and contact the nearest available veterinarian

and blacksmith.

2. Due to preparation the competitions area, the Organizer is obliged to:
 - 2.1. mark the competitions area, including areas with no entry for the public (training and competitions arena, stables);
 - 2.2. prepare and mark the parking area for passenger cars and horse trailers;
 - 2.3. provide the catering point for official persons (separate or with out-of-turn service), competitors and audience;
 - 2.4. an appropriate number of toilets and their cleaning.
3. Due to stables preparation, Organizer is obliged to:
 - 3.1. Prepare stables for horses arriving for the competition at least one day before and until the end of competitions;
 - 3.2. Provide sources for watering the horses;
 - 3.3. Provide bedding (straw, sawdust) and hay, at the Organizer's discretion for a fee or free of charge;
 - 3.4. Provide horse washing facilities.
4. Due to preparation competitions arena and warming-up zone Organizer is obliged to:
 - 4.1. provide competitions arena with dimensions consistent with the proposals, a dressage arena, set of obstacles necessary for the competitions and stands for Judges and secretaries;
 - 4.2. provide appropriately flexible substrate on all arenas including warm-up zone;
 - 4.3. provide time schedule for competitions, dressage and warm-up arenas for competitors during competitions;
 - 4.4. organize Course Designer and technical services;
 - 4.5. public important organizational announcements, starting lists, etc. on the platform serving the competitions, in the training arena and in other places at the discretion and in according to the Organizer's needs;
 - 4.6. provide professional electronic time measurement equipment (speed test) and in case of its breakdown, a hand-held electronic stopwatch for the Judge conducting the competitions.

VI. COMPETITIONS CONDITIONS

1. Types of competitions
 - 1.1 **National competitions** (WEP calendar)
 - 1.2 **International competitions** (WEP/WAVE calendar)The minimum number of Judges is described in "Regulations regarding official persons WEP"
2. During the National competitions the President of Jury may, at location, agree to minor deviations from the WEP rules (e.g. side-reins for children in dressage).
3. Judges without Active Judge (A) status may judge LR, Mini L and L competitions at the National competitions, and carry out duties of the Paddock Officer at each competitions.
4. The Organizer has the right to hold the competitions in three or two days. In the case of organizing two-days competitions, the Organizer, together with the President of Jury, determines the plan of competitions on each day.
5. The program may also include other competitions (e.g. for competitors starting without bridles) but they must be classified separately.
6. Classes and levels of advancement:
 - 6.1 Mini L – debutant level**
 - a. designed for children on ponies (up to 149 cm in horseshoes)
 - b. age of horse minimum 4 years
 - c. leading horse with both hands
 - d. tests: maneability
 - e. In maneability test basic pace is walk

6.2 L – amateur level

- a. designed for children, juniors and seniors
- b. age of horse minimum 4 years
- c. leading horse with both hands
- d. tests: dressage, maneability
- e. In maneability test basic pace is trot (seated or rising - without affecting the rating). The selected type of seat should be hold throughout the test (unless otherwise specified).

6.3 P – beginner level

- a. designed for children, juniors and seniors
- b. age of horse minimum 4 years
- c. leading horse with both hands
- d. tests: dressage, maneability and speed
- e. In maneability test basic pace is trot (seated or rising - without affecting the rating). The selected type of seat should be hold throughout the test (unless otherwise specified).

6.4 N – intermediate level

- a. designed for juniors and seniors
- b. age of horse minimum 5 years
- c. leading horse with both hands
- d. tests: dressage, maneability and speed
- e. In maneability test basic pace is canter with simple changes (1 – 3 walk steps). In transitions canter – walk 3 walk steps are allowed.

6.5 C – advanced level

- a. designed for juniors and seniors
- b. age of horse minimum 6 years
- c. leading horse with both hands or with one hand (free choice without affecting the rating)
- d. tests: dressage, maneability and speed
- e. In maneability test basic pace is canter with flying changes

6.6 CC, Masters – master level

- a. designed for juniors and seniors
- b. age of horse minimum 6 years
- c. leading horse with both hands (CC) or with one hand (Masters)
- d. tests: dressage, maneability and speed
- e. In maneability test basic pace is canter with flying changes

7. Final Provisions

- 7.1 In C class it's allowed to guide horse with one hand (without affecting the rating because of the higher level of difficulty). It is not allowed to change hands during the test, or change from one to both hands (and opposite). The competitor may perform each of the 3 tests freely (reins in one or two hands) e.g. dressage 2 hands, maneability 1 hand, speed 2 hands.
- 7.2 Up to class P inclusive, the line drum-bull-drum is a straight line, without other obstacles between.
- 7.3 In case of disqualification in maneability or/and speed test the competitor may continue ride with the consent of the Judge conducting the test.
- 7.4 Judge conducting the test, may immediately forbid to continue the test in following cases:
 - a. obvious problem with the horse's obedience,
 - b. when the rider-horse pair does not match the level of training on the test difficulty scale,
 - c. when the test is contrary to the horse's welfare and/or shows signs of cruelty towards the horse,
 - d. noticing lameness or blood on the horse,
 - e. dangerous behaviour of the horse.

8. Protests

- 8.1 President of Jury (in consultation with the other Judges) resolves all protests and complaints reported by competitors. The decisions of the President are final and cannot be appealed;
- 8.2 The protest must be submitted in writing directly to the President of Jury, no later than 30 minutes after the end of the competition to which the protest relates, after paying a deposit in the amount of PLN 300 at the Competition Office, confirmed e.g. with a KP form (refundable in case of positive consideration, if the decision is negative, the deposit is transferred to the Association WEP);
- 8.3 A protest regarding disqualification from a maneability or speed test should be considered up to 1 hour after the end of the last competition on a given day. Protest regarding other incidents, if there is no other possibility, within 14 days after the end of the competitions.
- 8.4 In the case of a positive outcome of a protest in a maneability or speed competition, the competitor is reinstated in the classification (the score for the disputed obstacle from disqualifying Judge, is the average of the scores given by other Judges. Ratings given by other Judges are not changed).
- 8.5 It is not possible to protest against:
 - a) Disqualification of the horse for health reasons (blood, lameness);
 - b) Disqualification/elimination during the competitions (except for the case described in point 8.3);
 - c) Mark in dressage and maneability competitions.
- 8.6 Video recording provided by the Organizer or competitor are allowed to consider protests.
9. The form of submitting complaints and the rules for their consideration are described in the "Regulations on official persons" on the website WEP - www.workingequitation.pl in the Judges tab.
10. At National competitions, including Polish Championships, of all age categories and classes including MASTERS, reading dressage programs is not allowed.
11. In the case of National and International competitions held together, in Masters class WAVE regulations apply.

VII. RIDERS

1. Competitors must respect the event rules, the WEP and WAVE rules – if they apply - and accept decisions made by the Jury and Paddock Officers under penalty of disqualification.
2. If a rider competes in the same class with a number of different horses, the Organizer will make every effort to ensure a 30-minute break between runs.
3. Rider's attire:
 - 3.1 **The rider's outfit** must always be neat and safe, and in accordance with *Annex 1 to this regulations (Classes WEP)*;
 - 3.2 **Safety vest** is a must in children class (including 12 years old) every time when they ride horses, and is allowed in any other age class despite of the class;
 - 3.3 Approved **hard hat** is a must in children and junior classes (including 18 years old) every time when they ride horses, with the pain of prohibiting further riding until wearing the helmet. The helmet **is recommended** for senior riders regardless of a class;
 - 3.4 **Whip** is allowed in specified classes in maneability and speed (max 120 cm – horses, 100 cm - ponies) in accordance with *Annex 1 to this regulations (Classes WEP)*. In dressage a whip is allowed in all classes *in accordance with Annex 1 to the regulations*. However, in CC and MASTERS classes, competitors may enter the competition arena with a whip, which should be held in an upwards position in free hand. At the same time, any touching of the horse with a whip will be considered as an external assistance under penalty of disqualification;
 - 3.5 **Spurs** are permitted in certain classes in maneability and speed tests in accordance with provisions of *the table "Classes WEP" (Appendix No. 1 of the Regulations)* and in all dressage competitions, but are not obligatory. All types of spurs used customarily in the disciplines: Dressage, Jumping, Working Equitation or other similar disciplines and Western are permitted. The spurs may be of any length, but may not be sharply pointed and may not hurt the horse. The Judge/Paddock Officer may order to change the spurs.

VIII. HORSES

1. The horse tack must be free from damage, neat, clean and in accordance with *Annex 1 "Classes WEP"* to the regulations;
2. The permitted **bits** are described in *Annex 4* to the regulations;
3. The following riding equipment is permitted with some restrictions:
 - 3.1 Protective boots and bandages are allowed in maneability and speed tests;
 - 3.2 Bell boots are allowed in speed test;
 - 3.3 Ears protectors (ear bonnets) are allowed provided that they do not cover the horse's eyes;
 - 3.4 Earplugs are only allowed during decoration;
 - 3.5 Cruppers are allowed in LR and Mini L classes, and in equestrian styles, where they are customary used (e.g. working equitation);
 - 3.6 Side reins can be used only during lunging;
 - 3.7 Cavessons, draw reins and other support reins, martingales and blinkers are forbidden

IX. SCOLING AND RIDING HORSES DURING COMPETITIONS

1. After arrival at the competition area and after the official opening of the stables, and also for the entire duration of the competitions no one except the competitor can ride his horse (registered for the competitions) under penalty of disqualification.
2. After arrival at the competition area and after the official opening of the stables, and also for the entire duration of the competitions, only the competitor may use the whip while riding or walking in hand, under penalty of disqualification. Other people may carry a whip, if it is not related to horse training.
3. In the case of sharing horses between two competitors, the right to mount the horse directly before the start has the competitor who is warming up for this start.
4. At the competition area, it is mandatory to attach the horse's starting number in a visible place (bridle, halter, saddle pad), enabling immediate identification of the horse. The Organizer places horses' numbers on starting lists and classifications.
5. Lunging can be done only on dedicated by the Organizer place, and must not hinder the warm-up of other competitors.
6. Riding outside the warm-up arena and outside the area supervised by the Judge/Paddock Officer is not allowed under penalty of disqualification.
7. Maximum number of starts for horse per day:
 - 7.1 LR and Mini L classes:
horse may compete 4 times per day in one test (maneability) under different competitors or 2 times in one test under the same competitor (second start is treated as training and is not included in the classification).
Maximum number of starts: **4**
 - 7.2 Ld, L, P, N, C classes:
horse may compete 2 times per day in one test (e.g. maneability or dressage) in one class under different competitors or under the same competitor (second start is treated as training and is not included in the classification).
Maximum number of starts: **4**
 - 7.3 CC and Masters classes:
Horse may compete 2 times per day in one test (e.g. maneability or dressage) under one competitor (second start is treated as training and is not included in the classification).
Maximum number of starts: **4**
 - 7.4 The Judges, in consultation with the Organizer, may not consent to training runs if it significantly affects the competition schedule.

X. MUSIC

- In C, CC and Master classes music is obligatory in dressage tests.
In lower classes music is recommended, but the music will not affect the rating.

XI. CLASSIFICATION AND AWARDS AT COMPETITIONS

1. The method of counting points in individual tests and in the final classification is consistent with the WAVE regulations.
2. In the case of an equal number of points achieved by several competitors, the final position is determined by the higher sum of points obtained respectively: in the dressage test, in the ease of handling test, in speed test.
3. The athlete's place in a given class is determined by the sum of points from all tests. Athletes, who have completed all tests validly are ranked first, then competitors who completed two tests etc.
4. In the Polish National Championships, participation on two horses in dressage and maneability tests is allowed, while in a speed test the competitor must decide before the start on which horse he wants to be classified in the Championship. In the situation described in the first sentence the competitor has the right to start on the second horse within open classification.
5. The Organizer provides financial and/or material prizes according to possibilities, but it is recommended to award and invite to decoration at least 20% of the participating couples.
6. Competitors who are absent from the decoration ceremony without giving a valid reason and without prior warning the Judge, will lose their right to the prizes.
7. All decorations take place on horses (in exceptional situations, for organizational or safety reasons, the President of Jury may order a ceremony without horses). If, for various reasons, the competitor cannot come on horseback for the decoration, he must inform President of Jury, in advance, about this fact.
8. During the decoration athletes wear the outfits in which they took part in the competition.

XII. Mini L COMPETITION

1. This category is intended for children on ponies (up to 149 cm in horseshoes);
2. The size of obstacles (drums, garrocha – weight and length etc.) is adapted to the height of horses and children;
3. During this competition Judge may allow (as an exception to the regulations) slalom on straight line built from 4 poles.

XIII. LR (Lead Reins) COMPETITION

1. This category is intended for participants in age 2 – 7 years old, riding on horses leaded by other person in hand. The rules are completed in *App nr 3 to WEP Regulations*.

XIV. BO (without bridle) and BW (without bit) COMPETITION

2. The BO competition is intended for athletes, who compete on horses without bridles, using cordeo to lead the horse;
3. The BW competition is intended for athletes, who use bitless bridles (including hackamore). Cavecans are not allowed;
4. The remaining regulations regarding horse tack and competitions rules are consistent with the provisions of these Regulations;
5. A competitor who overuse the cordeo incorrectly (strong action of the cordeo at height horse's trachea), may according to the Judges' decision: receive a warning, receive a significantly reduced score mark for movements made while using the cordeo incorrectly, be disqualified;
6. BO and BW competitions may be held at the level of classes L-C, under the condition that that at least 3 players for each class participate;
7. One test is allowed for competitors starting traditionally, without bridles and without bits, however there are separate classifications for these groups;
8. Competitors taking part in the BO and BW competitions are not classified in the WEP Rankings.

XV. VETERINARY CHECK-UP

1. A veterinary inspection is mandatory for horses entered in the MASTERS and is carried out on the eve of the start of this class;
2. In justified cases, the President of Jury may agree to a supplementary veterinary examination for horses that could not be presented at the first date due to unforeseen, exceptional

- circumstances;
3. The veterinary inspection panel always includes a competition veterinarian and President of Jury. Other official persons and competitors may also take part in the inspection;
 4. The horse may only be presented at the inspection wearing a bridle. Wearing blankets, protectors, bandages, earmuffs, etc. is not allowed;
 5. A veterinary check-up is not a detailed veterinary examination and must be carried out efficiently and as quickly as possible;
 6. Persons presenting horses at the inspection must wear neat attire and riding or sport shoes. Persons under 18 years old must wear a protective helmet when presenting horse;
 7. If there are contraindications to the horse's participation in competitions, the veterinarian informs about this fact immediately to the President of Judges. It is up to the President to decide whether to admit the horse to start in the competition.

XVI. FINAL PROVISIONS

If it is impossible to ensure the technical conditions for the competition to be held in accordance with the regulations of these Regulations, any deviations must be included in the proposals and accepted by The WEP Judges Committee or approved on site by the President of Judges.

XVII. CODE OF CONDUCT CONSISTENT WITH THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE

The Working Equitation Polska Association asks all people involved in any way in horse sports, to comply with the code presented below and the principle that the good of the horse is the most important thing. The horse welfare is paramount and cannot be submitted to competition or commercial purposes for e.g. commercial purposes.

1. At all stages of training and preparing the horse for competition, the horse's well-being must come above all other requirements. This applies to constant care, training methods, careful stable and cleaning procedures, forging and transport.
 - a. Stable conditions, feeding and training must comply with the principles of proper horse handling and must not disturb his well-being. The conduct that may cause physical or mental suffering of the horse is unacceptable, during or outside the duration of the competition.
 - b. Horses can be trained in a way that suits their physical and mental capabilities and maturity level. They must not be subjected to any training methods that are brutal, fear-inducing, or for which the horses have not been properly prepared.
 - c. Hoof care and shoeing must meet high standards.
 - d. Riding equipment must be designed and fitted to avoid the risk of injury.
 - e. During transport, horses must be fully protected against injuries and other health hazards. The vehicle must be safe, well ventilated, and regularly maintained to a high technical standard, regularly disinfected and driven by competent drivers. Professional service must always be ready to take care of the horse.
 - f. All horse transports must be carefully planned, including regular rest breaks with access to fresh water and food.
2. Horses and riders must be healthy, competent and trained before they compete. This applies also to used drugs, medical products and surgical procedures that threaten well-being of the horse or pregnant mare, and applies also to cases of abuse of medical assistance.
 - a. Only properly prepared horses and competitors with proven skills may take part in competitions.
 - b. The horse showing any signs of illness, lameness or other significant ailments, or prior occurring disorders will not be allowed to start or continue to participate in the competition, if this will endanger the horse's well-being. In any doubt, please consult the veterinarian.
 - c. The use of doping substances and prohibited drugs is a serious abuse of the horse's well-

- being and is unacceptable.
- d. After veterinary treatment, the horse must be guaranteed enough time for fully recover, before participating in the competition again.
 - e. Any surgical procedures that endanger the horse's welfare or safety of other horses or competitors participating in the competition are not permitted.
 - f. Pregnant mares after the fourth month of pregnancy or mares with a foal cannot compete in competitions.
 - g. Cruelty to a horse using natural riding aids or additional aids (e.g. whip, spurs, etc.) will not be accepted.
3. Participation in competitions must not violate the horse's well-being. Special attention should be paid to the area of the competition, technical conditions of the ground, stable and weather conditions, condition of horses and their safety also during the return trip from the competition.
 - a. Horses may be trained and compete only on suitable and safe ground. All surfaces on which horses walk, train or compete must be designed and maintained so that limit factors that may lead to injury. Particular attention should be paid to preparation, composition and surface maintenance.
 - b. All obstacles must be designed to ensure the safety of the horse.
 - c. Competitions cannot be held in extreme weather conditions if they may be at risk the welfare or safety of horses. The necessary means should be provided to cool horses quickly immediately after completion of the test.
 - d. Stables must be safe, hygienic, comfortable, well-ventilated and of sufficient dimensions for the type and temper of the horse. Clean, good quality and appropriate feed and bedding, fresh drinking water and domestic water must always be available.
 - e. After the competitions, the horse must be in good condition before the return journey.
 4. Every effort should be made to ensure that horses are carefully cared for after competition, as well as humane treatment after the end of a sports career. This includes proper veterinary care, treatment of injuries sustained during competitions, retirement, or euthanasia.
 - a. Veterinary care must always be available at the competition area;
 - b. If a horse is injured or overtired during a competition, the rider must stop riding and the veterinarian must examine the horse;
 - c. If necessary, the horse should be transported by ambulance to the nearest appropriate facility clinics for further diagnosis and treatment. Injured horses must receive appropriate supportive medical treatment and veterinary assistance before transport.
 - d. Incidents of injuries of horses during competitions should be monitored. Substrate quality, frequency of tests any other risk factors should be carefully analyzed to guide how to minimize the risk of injuries.
 - e. If the injuries are very serious, for humane reasons and only to reduce suffering, the horse may be euthanized by a veterinarian as soon as possible. Every effort should be made to ensure that horses receive decent and humane treatment after the end of their sports career.
 5. We encourage all people involved in horse riding to constantly improve their knowledge and skills regarding all aspects of cooperation with a horse.